

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An electrolyte material for a fuel cell having a proton conductive system at least comprising (a) a Brönsted acid and (b) a base having a lone electron-pair, wherein

the Brönsted acid (a) is selected from the group consisting of methanesulfonic acid, ethanesulfonic acid, benzenesulfonic acid, trifluoromethanesulfonic acid, p-toluenesulfonic acid, and derivatives thereof, and

the base (b) has a structure in which one group selected from a group consisting of: a hydrocarbon group having 3 or less carbon atoms; a hydroxyl group-containing hydrocarbon group having 3 or less in a total number of carbon and oxygen atoms; a carbonyl group; a carboxyl group; an amino group; an imino group; a nitro group; and an amide group, is added to a compound selected from a group consisting of: imidazole, pyrazole; triazole; pyridine; pyrazine; pyrimidine; and pyridazine, one or more groups are added to a group having the lone electron pair, and wherein

a total number of constitutional atoms other than H atom included in all the added group is three or less from one to three.

2-9. (Canceled)

10. (New) The electrolyte material according to claim 1, wherein the base (b) has a structure in which one group selected from a group consisting of: a hydrocarbon group having 3 or less carbon atoms; a hydroxyl group-containing hydrocarbon group having 3 or less in a total number of carbon and oxygen atoms; a carbonyl group; a carboxyl group; an amino group; an imino group; a nitro group; and an amide group, is added to a compound selected from a group consisting of: pyrazole; triazole; pyridine; pyrazine; pyrimidine; and

pyridazine, wherein a total number of constitutional atoms other than H atom included in all the added group is from one to three.